



Washington State Department of Ecology Orchard Tear Out Permit Application

Is an Agricultural Burning Permit Required?

All commercial agricultural operations must obtain a permit prior to burning natural vegetation, except when burning orchard prunings, natural vegetation along fencelines, irrigation and drainage ditches or natural vegetation blown by the wind. You must notify your fire protection authority prior to igniting **any** fire, even if an air quality permit is not required.

Best Management Practices (BMPs)

Agricultural burning is allowed when it is reasonably necessary to carry out the enterprise. A farmer can show it is reasonably necessary when it meets the criteria of the BMPs and no practical alternative exists. BMPs are one of the ways to demonstrate the need to burn. Growers not using these BMPs must establish that their proposed burn is reasonably necessary and that no practical alternative is available. The burden of proof is on the grower, and the demonstration must satisfy the Department of Ecology (Ecology) and the local delegated permitting authority.

Notice of Intent

Please provide your plan to apply to burn as early as possible. At that time, you may obtain a permit application and associated permitting information.

Completing the Application

1. Fill out the information requested on the following pages. *The application must be complete, the applicant statement sheet signed, and the top page returned, otherwise this will be an incomplete application. The permit may be denied if all information is not provided.*
2. Attach a map of the **affected acreage** that clearly outlines the area where you plan to burn. The map must include Section, Township, and Range lines and roads. (The NRCS farm plan aerial photo maps, FSA aerial photos, or USGS 7.5 minutes maps are good for this purpose.)
3. Attach documentation of the management history of and the future management plan for the area requested to burn.
4. Attach any documentation from 3rd party agronomic experts that helps to demonstrate the need to burn.
5. Attach any documentation of compliance with soil loss standards.
6. Calculate total acres and the fee in the space provided. **Minimum fee is \$25.00.*
7. Sign and date the application.
8. Mail the application and check for the permit fee to the following address:

**Agricultural Burning Account
Washington State Department of Ecology
PO Box 5128
Lacey, WA 98509-5128**

What Happens Next?

Ecology will evaluate your application and determine if you have demonstrated that burning is necessary to carry out your enterprise and that no alternatives exist. The burden of proof rests with you. Ecology will act on a **completed** application within seven (7) days and will either send you a permit or a written explanation as to why the application was denied.

If the permit is denied, you are subject to a refund less a \$25 processing fee.

Ecology is an equal opportunity employer

Check this box if the acreage you are applying to burn is in the following Counties: Chelan, Douglas, Kittitas, Kootenai, or Okanogan

Application #

Applicant Information:	Land Owner or Contractor Information:
Name: _____	Name: _____
Business Name: _____	Business Name: _____
Mailing Address: _____	Mailing Address: _____
City/State _____ Zip _____ County _____	City/State _____ Zip _____ County _____
Contact Person: _____	Contact Person: _____
Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____	Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____
Shop Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____	Shop Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Burn Summary and Calculation of Permit Fee: (please complete once entire application has been completed)

Summary of Permit Application

Burn	<u>Common Name:</u> How do you commonly refer to this area? (for example, "Smith Place")	Acres	Crop	Yield	Expected Burn Date
Burn #1					
Burn #2					
Burn #3					
Burn #4					
Burn #5					

1. Is the applicant the operator? Yes ☐ No ☐

2. Is the applicant a: Business ☐ -or- Individual ☐

3. Is the applicant a: Lessee/Renter ☐ -or- Owner ☐

Total Acres _____ Total Acres requested to Burn: _____ X \$2.00 = \$ _____

*Minimum \$25.00 non-refundable administrative fee

Applicant Statements: Enclosed applicant statements must be signed and top page returned. Incomplete applications will not be processed.

Refund Policy: Refund requests for Spring Permits must be received prior to **June 30th**. Refund requests for Fall Permits must be received prior to **December 31st**.

*If the permit is denied the grower or applicant is subject to a refund, less the \$25.00 administrative fee.

I certify that the information provided as part of this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Applicant Signature

Date

Burn # _____

B M P INFORMATION

What BMP are you using? (See non-cereal BMPs section 5-5k and section A-A and A-2) _____

If no BMP is being used the grower must state why the burning is necessary to carry out the enterprise and that no practical alternative is reasonably available. Provide reason: _____

Orchard variety (be specific) _____

Is this a dwarf variety? Yes ____ No ____ Age of trees _____ Acres of orchard being torn out _____

Total acres of orchard _____ Number of trees per acre _____ Irrigated Yes ____ No ____

What is the estimated tonnage per acre to be burned? _____

Has the orchard/portion(s) of the orchard been thoroughly inspected by a third party agronomic professional?

Yes ____ No ____ If yes, by whom? _____

Describe the results of this inspection: (attach additional sheets and/or letters as needed) _____

ORCHARD/FIELD LOCATION

Section, township and range for field or portions of a field to be burned for BURN #1 ONLY. (List each section within a township and range separately).

_____ 1/4 Section _____ Township: _____ Range: _____

_____ 1/4 Section _____ Township: _____ Range: _____

_____ 1/4 Section _____ Township _____ Range: _____

Latitude and Longitude (if available): Lat: _____ N Long: _____ W

How was Lat/Long obtained: GPS: _____ MAP: _____ OTHER: _____

Attach a map providing *specific* location of trees removed and location of expected burn pile. Include clearly marked Section, Township and Range border lines and numbers.

Driving directions/street address (if available), irrigation block & unit (if applicable) of field or portion of field to be burned: _____

Fire Department/District (# and name) _____ County: _____

DOCUMENTATION SHOWING A BURN IS REASONABLY NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE ENTERPRISE. (WAC 173-430-040(1))

Provide a detailed explanation as to why you believe burning is necessary. _____

Orchard History	Acres Torn Out	Acres Burned	*Acres not burned
1998			
1999			
2000			
2001			

*What was done with the acres that were not burned? _____

What is the reason for the orchard tear out? _____

Describe which alternatives to burning you have tried or researched and why you believe these were not effective (for example, have you considered chipping, cutting for firewood, etc): _____

How does the cost of alternatives compare with the cost of burning? (provide cost estimates in comparisons)

Explain how you can assure that the acreage requested to burn will be protected from water and wind erosion following the burn: _____

What are your plans for this acreage following the burn? _____
